

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A timing device comprising an indicator device and a detector wherein said indicator device comprises a light-emissive element and a patterning layer.
2. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said emissive element comprises electroluminescent material.
3. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said emissive element comprises organic light-emitting diodes.
4. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator device has a bending stiffness of between 50 and 400.
5. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator device has a bending radius of at less than 3 centimeter.
6. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said detector is sensitive to the wavelength of light emitted by said light-emissive element.
7. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said light-emissive element emits light in pulses.
8. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said light-emissive element emits light from pixels.
9. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said light-emissive element emits light in greater than 1 wavelength and said detector is capable of sensing more than 1 wavelength.

10. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said detector comprises more than 1 sensor.

11. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said detector moves relative to said indicator device.

12. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator device moves relative to said detector.

13. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said timing device is provided with a shield that only allows the detector to receive light from a small portion of said indicator device.

14. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said timing device is provided with light focusing or directing lenses.

15. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator element is in an arcuate shape.

16. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator element is in a tubular shape.

17. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator element is in a tubular shape with the light-emissive element emitting light on the exterior of the tube.

18. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator element is in a disk.

19. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator element is in a strip.

20. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises a pattern formed by silver halide.

21. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises a pattern formed by a dye transfer image.

22. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises a pattern formed by ink jet printing.

23. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises a pattern formed by gravure printing.

24. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises a pattern formed by conductive inks.

25. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises a pattern formed by patterned indium tin oxide.

26. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises pattern areas of a density of at least 1.8.

27. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said patterning layer comprises non-patterned areas comprising colored dyes.

28. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator device has an angle of view of between 1 and 50 degrees.

29. The timing device of claim 1 wherein said indicator device has an angle of view of between 5 and 15 degrees.